

The Polish Review



UNDERGROUND ON HEROISM OF POLISH YOUTH

At a press conference on the Polish underground movement arranged by the Polish Ministry of Information, a representative of the underground movement recently arrived from Poland said:

"The very fact of living under German occupation makes it exceedingly difficult to avoid psychological collapse and demoralization of youth. German terror in Poland creates an atmosphere where nobody can be certain what will happen in a day or an hour. It is exceedingly hard for a strong adult to endure this atmosphere, and even more so for youth.

"All the terror to which many people in the free world, in this country or in America, close their eyes and about which they do not wish to read, hear or think—is for Polish youth an everyday grim reality. They see these atrocities with their own eyes. Any moment, be they guilty or not, they may fall into enemy's hands and be subjected to the most brutal torture in German prison camps.

"These things cannot be lived through without leaving a trace on the character. The only law that is in force in occupied Poland serves exclusively the interests of Germany. No one in Poland wants to obey that law. On the contrary, its breach is regarded as an act of merit, as resisting the Germans.

"In Poland's underground press grave concern is expressed over the moral standard of young citizens brought up under these circumstances. It will be difficult after regaining independence to re-install honest respect for law in a generation brought up in the atmosphere of slavery and hatred; it will be hard to restore their belief that the world is ruled by morality, their faith in humanity and in the joy of life.

"For more than three years I have lived in Poland under German occupation. I can not speak openly about the part played by Polish youth in the underground movement. The fact is, however, that although Germans have done away with all the forms of education, Polish youth is learning. Many papers for young people are distributed throughout Poland. Although the Germans officially liquidated the Polish publishing business, secret pamphlets and volumes of poetry, even textbooks, appear with increasing frequency and young people read extensively. Heaviest demand being for serious textbooks.

"German films, the only ones that are distributed in Poland, are boycotted by the Polish youth. If a Pole goes to see such a film a secret hidden hand will pin a label on his coat, reading 'Only swine visit the cinema.' One day,

POLES DESTROY, DAMAGE, 972 ENEMY PLANES

During the third quarter of 1943 (July, August, September) a total of 3,673 planes took part in the activities of the Polish Fighter Airforce. Enemy air force was mainly on the defensive, so that, contrary to the previous experience, our fighters seldom came to battle with the enemy. In 1943 it was covering operations that led to battles with enemy fighters.

During these fights the Polish Fighters destroyed for certain 54 planes, 12 probables and damaged 30. The third quarter of 1943 brought a record bag, particularly in September, when Polish Fighters shot down for certain 32 planes. The highest number of destroyed enemy planes during any of the two previous months was eleven.

The Polish Bombers participated in operations on enemy ports and industrial centres, also in mine-laying in enemy waters, offensive patrols and raiding enemy shipping. Poles participated in raids on Aachen, Essen, Hamburg, Hanover, Cologne, Munich, Gladbach, with a total of 567 planes and delivered bombloads of more than a million pounds. During operations one U-boat was damaged, and one enemy plane destroyed.

Since its arrival in Great Britain up to September 30th, 1943, the Polish Airforce record stands as follows: Polish Fighters destroyed 605 planes for certain, 159 probably, 208 damaged. Polish Bombers took part in a total of 617 operations with 5,900 planes delivering 14 million pounds of bombs. Polish Bomber crews destroyed for certain 11 planes, 9 probably, 4 damaged. The Polish Bomber Squadron attached to the Coastal Command probably sunk 6 U-boats, damaged 7.

a boy succeeded in cutting in such an inscription in a film reel, and it appeared on the screen in both Polish and German.

"Germans do not feel secure in Poland. They fear being assassinated by the members of the Polish underground movement. They are subjected to unpleasant little accidents. Acid sprayed by unseen hands destroys their uniforms or leaflets appear on the tables in a cafe 'Nur Fuer Deutsche' giving BBC news from London.

"Germans do not enjoy reading such things, but it's still more unpleasant for them to be caught with such leaflets in hand. Germans like to be photographed, but if any photograph of a uniformed German is displayed in a photographer's window, the window will soon be smashed.

"Some day when Polish youth is free and no longer in constant danger its part in the war will be revealed."

BRITISH PRISONERS OF WAR PRAISE SPIRIT OF POLAND

BRITISH prisoners of war repatriated from Germany have no words to express their admiration of the Polish people. This kindness and cordiality shown by Poles to the British war prisoners dates from early Autumn of 1940. After the fall of France many British prisoners were sent to Poland and scattered among various camps, with Polish prisoners who were later released from imprisonment only to be seized as civilians for forced labor. Their meeting Polish war prisoners and contacts with Polish people have left unforgettable traces in the minds of the British war prisoners.

On reaching Scotland last week most of the 3,600 exchanged British soldiers had travelled straight from Poland where they had spent years in German prison camps. They spoke most highly of the kindness and splendid morale of the Polish people, and related their experiences with great enthusiasm and gratitude.

They said that on their arrival in Poland they were greeted by the Polish prisoners with cries of "Long Live Great Britain," and the Poles sang Polish choral songs for them. They shared their scanty rations of cigarettes, etc., with the British. Food and other necessary articles were thrown in to British prisoners through barbed wire.

When the Germans issued new rules and adult Poles were no longer allowed near the camps, Polish children used to crawl under the wire and throw food to British prisoners, though they knew they might get hit with a rifle butt by the German guards. The cordial, generous and kind attitude of the Polish people for them remained unchanged to the last.

A British noncom said: "On leaving Poland we threw tins of food, cigarettes, etc., out of the train windows to our Polish friends who helped us in our misfortune. We tried to show our gratitude and repay their kindness as well as we could." Repatriated Britons who have been in all parts of Poland—Pomorze, Poznan, Silesia, around Cracow, near Lodz, in the Government General, etc., were unanimous in declaring that the morale of the Poles at home was excellent and unbreakable. "Very good spirit, very high spirit" they were very well informed about the bad economic conditions in Poland and about German terrorism.

One of the men said: "When we reached the Polish-German frontier the train stopped and we saw some Polish women on the platform. They looked round to make sure no Germans were looking and then covertly made a V sign."

On the whole British prisoners in Poland were well informed of what was going on in the world. They knew about the part played by the Poles in the Battle of Tobruk, about the Polish Army in Scotland, about the Polish airmen bombing Berlin and the Polish Navy fighting side by side with the Royal Navy.

Last year one of the Scottish soldiers had been given a warm

scarf by a Pole and when he wanted to give him a tin of cigarettes in return the Pole said: "You are giving so much to my countrymen—I cannot take anything from you."

The repatriated soldiers knew about the underground resistance in Poland, attacks on Germans, bloody reprisals and also German minimizing the importance of the underground movement by calling it banditry. They told how in some lonely places far from railroad traffic and larger towns, Polish armed units hide in forests and manage to evade the Germans. They are convinced that when the time comes, the Germans in Poland will be in a very desperate if not hopeless position. They also know about sabotage on railways, in factories and the burning of German storehouses. Laughingly, one man described thus the difference between a Polish and a German worker: "The Germans working on railway lines turn the screws from left to right—Poles laying the track turn them from right to left." (That is unscrew them again.)

POLES FIGHT KOSCIUSZKO BATTLE AGAIN

History repeats itself. The truth of this saying is confirmed by the Poles in their present-day armed struggle against the Germans which is reminiscent of the times of Tadeusz Kosciuszko, Polish national hero who fought in the American Independence War.

Not far from Racławice, in Southern Poland, where Kosciuszko fought his historic battle in 1795, soldiers of the Polish underground forces attacked a German detachment. The fighting lasted a few hours. These facts were reported in Polish underground papers, copies of which now reached London. The event took place in July.

Both parties consisted of about five hundred men on each side. The Poles were armed with machine-guns and hand-granades and forced the Germans to retreat. There were dead and wounded on both sides. The Poles were able to take their wounded with them into the forests.

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THE POLISH-RUSSIAN FRONTIER *

by DR. MARIAN SEYDA

ONLY lasting, friendly co-operation between Poland and Russia, irrespective of the dominant system in either, can assure both countries security against Germany. But in order that such relations can be established, both Poland and Russia must mutually recognize the principle that both nations are great nations, possessing their own rich historical, political and cultural heritage and their own sphere of influence, and also that neither of the partners will endeavor to deprive the other of its position gained through centuries by the labor of many generations. The basis of the mutual relations must be complete equality of status. All ideas of "patronage" or "leadership" must be rejected. Neither of the partners can enter into agreements or undertakings directed against the other partner, or work deliberately to surround it territorially or economically.

The Riga Treaty of March 18, 1921, must be recognized as settling the age-old Russian-Polish territorial dispute. In this treaty Poland, desiring to achieve a lasting normalization of relations with her Eastern neighbor, renounced close on half (some 120,000 square miles) of the area which belonged to her before the Partitions of 1772, 1793 and 1795. Consequently, Poland made tremendous sacrifices. She retained only those territories which are indispensable to ensure her not becoming a small and weak State. These territories are united most closely with her by historical, cultural, and economic bonds, and the Polish element is numerically the strongest national group.

The provinces which came under Soviet occupation in September, 1939, had belonged to Poland either from the very dawn of her history (such as the northern part of Mazovia and, with interruptions, Eastern Galicia) or for many centuries, at least for four hundred years. These areas either never had belonged to Russia at all (e.g., Eastern Galicia) or had belonged to her for a comparatively brief period during the years when all Poland was under foreign domination.

At the outbreak of the present war these eastern areas had a population of 13,199,000, of whom some 5,274,000 were Poles, 4,529,000 were Ukrainians, 1,123,000 were White Ruthenians, 1,109,000 were Jews, and 803,000 were "local people," i.e., inhabitants of Polesie who did not declare themselves as belonging to any nationality in censuses. The remaining inhabitants consisted of small numbers of other nationalities, among which the Russians numbered 137,000, or barely 1 per cent of the total population.

A considerable part of these territories, such as the regions of Lomza, Ostroleka, Bialystok, Wilno, Lwow, and Tarnopol, are either purely Polish in character, or possess an absolute majority of Polish inhabitants. The city of Wilno, which is referred to by certain foreign writers as a "Lithuanian" town, taken by Poland illegally, is decidedly Polish in its character. At the outbreak of the war the Lithuanians in the city amounted to barely 1 per cent of the total inhabitants. Also in the country districts of Wilno, Poles are in the absolute majority. Similarly Lwow, the capital of south-eastern

(Please turn to page 14)



* From: "POLAND AND GERMANY and the POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE," by Dr. Marian Seyda. 39 pp.

SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC EDUCATION IN EASTERN POLAND



Essential contribution made by reborn Poland to the development of its eastern provinces, was the amount of money spent on public education.

The unusually low standard of learning in the eastern territories was not merely the result of inefficiency of the former Russian authorities, it was part of a political system. To the last the Tzar's Government held that public education was a menace to the autocratic régime. The result of this policy was an amazingly low standard of public education and a high percentage of illiterates. In spite of an immediate improvement of the educational system by Poland, the percentage of illiterates in these territories, in 1921, was still 64.70 per cent for inhabitants over ten years of age, and as much as 71 per cent for children of school age (10-14 years).

Poland did everything to foster public education. The war was still raging in the East, when on August 20th, 1919, the University of Wilno was re-established. In 1832 it had been closed down by the Russian authorities, as a consequence of the Polish "November rising" of 1830-1831. Similarly the "Lyceum" of Krzemieniec in Volhynia, founded in 1805 by Polish initiative and afterwards suppressed by the Russian Government, was restored to full activity in 1920.

At the same time Polish Boards of Education set about organizing the school system. In 1910-1911 there were in the four northeastern provinces 3,698 elementary schools, exclusively Russian and of low grade, with 242,100 pupils. In 1937-1938 there were 6,312 schools, with 841,500 pupils. In addition to these schools, kindergartens, hitherto unknown here, were created, and in 1937-1938 numbered 135, with 4,300 children. These schools, at first often located in simple peasant cottages, were later removed to newly-built, modern school-buildings.

The results of these efforts soon appeared in the fall of the percentage of illiterates. In 1931, at the time of the census, their number had fallen from 64.70 per cent. to 41 per cent. of the population over 10 years of age, and from 71 per cent. to 17 per cent. for children of 10 to 14 years. Out of 100 children of school-age in the four north-eastern provinces 80 were already attending school in 1937, and of those nine years old as many as 90.

The number of secondary schools also increased. In 1921-1922 there were 60 such schools, with 15,700 pupils; in 1937-1938 they had increased to 81 with 19,200 pupils, not to mention the higher gymnasiums created in accordance with the Polish school reform of 1932, which numbered 70 with 3,700 pupils. Other educational institutions, until then non-existent in these lands, were founded, such as teachers' training colleges, of which in 1937-1938 there were nine with 1,370 students; 114 vocational schools of various types with 13,200 pupils; 37 agricultural schools with 1,100 pupils, and 40 advanced vocational schools with 6,800 pupils.

Beside the University of Wilno, a School of Political Studies was created in that city to educate candidates for the civil service and local government offices in the eastern territories. This school was attached to the Institute for Eastern Europe, founded at Wilno by the Polish Government for research on the Baltic States and Soviet Russia, and in 1937-1938 the aggregate attendance at these two institutions was 3,300.

In the three south-eastern provinces great progress in public education was also made although less striking than in the north-east, because the standard of teaching under Austrian rule had been higher. Hence the percentage of illiterates fell here, between the two census-years of 1921 and 1931, from 31.50 per cent. to 24.20 per cent. for inhabitants

over 10 years of age, and for children of 10-14 from 26.20 per cent. to 8.20 per cent. The following figures give a general idea of the educational facilities here in 1937-1938: 126 kindergartens with 5,000 children; 5,176 elementary schools with 822,300; 138 secondary schools with 33,100; 127 higher gymnasiums with 8,700; 15 teachers' training colleges with 900; 91 vocational schools with 14,700; 24 agricultural schools with 800, and 85 advanced professional schools with 17,300 pupils. After Warsaw, Lwow was one of the principal academic centres in Poland; five schools of university status existed here with 9,100 students, the University, the Engineering College, the College of Export Trade, the Veterinary Academy and the Institute of Dentistry.

With the general system of education the needs of the non-Polish population were by no means forgotten. In addition to the Jewish schools of every grade which grew up in great variety there were numerous minority schools. These latter were of three distinct types:

1. Schools in which a minority language was taught, as Ukrainian was in 2,087 elementary schools attended by 335,400 pupils; White Ruthenian in 44, which 8,200 pupils attended, and Lithuanian in 112 schools with 8,600 pupils.

2. "Bilingual" schools in which a minority language besides Polish was a medium of teaching. Instruction was given in Ukrainian and Polish in 3,064 schools with 473,400 pupils. In 56 schools 4,500 children were taught in White Ruthenian and Polish or in Lithuanian and Polish.

3. Schools where the medium of instruction was a minority language, Ukrainian in 461 schools attended by 58,800 pupils, Lithuanian in 23 schools with 1,100 pupils, and Czech in 18 schools with 900 pupils. The Ukrainians also had 24 secondary schools and 21 higher gymnasiums for 5,700 pupils, in which teaching was carried on exclusively in their own language, two bilingual secondary schools and two bilingual higher gymnasiums with 1,200 pupils, one Ukrainian teachers' training college with 100 pupils and five Ukrainian vocational schools with 600 pupils. In this way 539,800 pupils were taught in Ukrainian, and 335,400 learned that language as a subject, so that altogether 875,200 children had the opportunity to acquire knowledge in the Ukrainian tongue. The White Ruthenians and Lithuanians each had a secondary school and one higher gymnasium at Wilno, where instruction was given in their native languages.

The teaching of children both in Polish and in their mother-tongue had been introduced in the eastern provinces by law in 1924. This measure established the bilingual school, with Polish and the mother-tongue of the pupils as media of instruction, as the type of school in which Polish and non-Polish pupils were to be taught to respect and understand each other.

In addition to the establishments already mentioned there existed a Uniate College of Theology in Lwow. An Orthodox Faculty of Theology was attached to the University of Warsaw. Six chairs in the University of Warsaw, five in Cracow and two in Lwow imparted teaching of Ukrainian subjects in the Ukrainian language.

It should be mentioned here that the non-Polish population in the eastern provinces enjoyed full liberty in the use of their languages in all matters of administration, local-government and law, as decreed by two acts of parliament of the same year 1924.

Besides this regular educational system, public extra-mural instruction developed rapidly and went far towards raising the standard of culture. While in Eastern Galicia only certain defects had to be made good, in the four north-eastern provinces, everything had to be organized from the very beginning. In view of the high percentage of illiterates among

the adult population, supplementary courses, evening schools, and so-called Peoples' Universities played an important part: in 1937-1938 there were in these north-eastern provinces about 2,500 educational centres of all types with 50,000 students, in Eastern Galicia about 1,200 centres with 21,000. A special type of professional instruction for youth engaged in agriculture was created by the so-called "agricultural preparatory groups", directed by qualified instructors. These groups flourished especially in the east, which in 1938 had 4,500 groups out of the total of 10,863 groups in Poland.

This strenuous effort of local-government in the eastern provinces was extended also to other spheres of educational activity. In 1937-1938 there were 18,636 Polish "Community Halls", which combined self-education with instruction by teachers. Of these 9,821 were in the eastern territories. These regions had also 4,634 popular theatrical clubs out of the Polish total of 11,176, 2,505 choral societies out of 5,976, and 9,600 popular libraries out of a Polish total of about 20,000. Thirty new museums were also added to those already existing at Wilno and Lwow. Among these, the Volhynian Museum in Luck, the Ostrog Museum, the Pokuckie Museum in Kolomyja, the Regional Podolskie Museum in Tarnopol, the Historical and the Municipal Natural Science Museums in Grodno—enjoyed more than a local reputation for their ethnographic, historical, archeological, scientific, artistic and folklore collections.

The number of community houses, which gradually became the focal points of social life in the villages, rose in the north-eastern provinces from two in 1919 to 97 in 1933, and in former Eastern Galicia from 126 to 466. Of recent years (1933-1939)—and this refers especially to the south-

eastern territories, for which statistics are unfortunately lacking—there was intense and fruitful activity in this sphere of public education by both local and central governments.

Typical of the way ravaged Eastern Poland went about reconstructing her cultural life, is the city of Stanislawow. Almost completely destroyed by war operations in 1917-1920, it made a determined effort to set cultural activities in motion. The old municipal library was rearranged and opened to the public; the archives of the city, books and manuscripts belonging to the Latin collegiate, the Armenian church, the gymnasium, the famous Mickiewicz school were dusted off and catalogued; the Pokuckie Museum with its excavated relics and its fine collection of pictures painted on glass, was opened; and a local society for the advancement of culture was founded.

In broadcasting the eastern territories kept pace with the rest of Poland. Of the ten Polish broadcasting stations, four were in the east, at Wilno (1928), Lwow (1930), Baranowicz (1938), and at Luck, where the final stage of construction was interrupted by the war.

In concluding this rapid survey of the cultural and educational life of the eastern territories it may be added that more than fifty scientific societies were extremely active, and that the eastern provinces were the subject of special interest among Polish cultural circles, which in 1934 with liberal Government help, organized a "Commission for Scientific Research in the Eastern Territories." This Commission organized a congress at the University of Warsaw in 1936 to discuss research work in Polesia, and in 1938 another congress was held at Cracow University on central and eastern Carpathian problems.



Bird's-eye view of Luck, Eastern Poland.

REPORTS ON POLISH UNDERGROUND RESISTANCE

BŁOGOSŁAWIENI KTORZY W CZASIE GROMÓW
NIE UTRACILI RÓWNOWAGI DUCHA.

Kasprowicz.



BIULETYN informacyjny

Rok 1 Warszawa, 11 marca 1943 Nr 10 (165)

Rugowanie kolonistów niemieckich

Kierownictwo Walki Konspiracyjnej komunikuje w dniu 5.III: W dniu 25 stycznia br. oddziały Sił Zbrojnych spaliły „skolonizowaną” wieś Cieszyn (powiat Zamosć), przy czym zginęło do 60 rodzin kolonistów niemieckich i 8 SS-manów. Ponadto spalono kilka gospodarstw we wsi Wierzba, przy czym zginęło kilkunastu Volksdeutsche.

Echa boju pod Krasnobrodem

- KWK komunikuje w dniu 6.III. uzupełnienie komunikatu z dn. 26.II:
1. Boj pod Krasnobrodem rozpoczął się już w dn. 1 lutego br.
 2. Po stronie polskiej brały udział jednostki Sił Zbr. w tym również oddziały Chłosty.
 3. Po stronie niemieckiej brało udział około 2.000 ludzi bardzo dobrze uzbrojonych: użyto samoloty, 2 czołgi, działek pancernych. Straty Niemców — ok. 40 zabitych.
 4. Bestialstwo niemieckie występowało szczególnie jaskrawo w wiosce koło Łuszczacz, gdzie wymordowano około 60 niewinnych osób oraz w rej. Hamerni, gdzie we wsiach gwałcono kobiety, mordowano kobiety i dzieci.

OTWARTE KARTY

W poprzednim numerze B.I. podaliśmy tekst deklaracji Rządu Polskiego w Londynie z dnia 25 lutego br. W deklaracji tej Rząd stwierdził, że stoi niezlomnie na stanowisku nienaruszalności granicy polsko-sowieckiej przed 1 września 1939 r., co zgodne jest całkowicie z zasadami Karty Atlantyk.

W związku z tą deklaracją, sowiecka agencja telegraficzna TASS opublikowała w dniu 2 marca świadectwo teści.

Deklaracja Rządu Polskiego nie jest wyrazem opinii, tylko polityki. Rząd

Polski stoi bowiem nadal na stanowisku polityki imperialistycznej nie uznając historycznych praw Ukrainców, Białorusinów i dokonanego już zjednoczenia tych narodów. Powoływanie się przez Rząd Polski na Kartę Atlantyką nie jest trafne, gdyż zasady jej zapewnijają narodom Ukrainskiemu i Białoruskiemu odrębne życie narodowe. Nawet brytyjski minister lord Curzon, oświadczając swego czasu, że Polska nie może rościć sobie pretensji do Ukrainy i Białorusi. Twierdzenie, że Polska przed wybuchem wojny odrzucała współpracę z Niemcami, nie zgadza

BIULETYN INFORMACYJNY. Warsaw, March 11, 1943, Nr. 10.

GERMAN COLONISTS OUSTED

March 5, 1943, the Directorate of Underground Resistance reports: On January 25, 1943, divisions of Polish Armed Forces set fire to Cieszyn, Zamosc District, "colonized" by Germans. Sixty families of German colonists and eight S.S. troopers perished. Various farms in Wierzba were also burned and several Volksdeutsche died.

ECHOES OF THE FIGHT AT KRASNOBROD

March 6, The Directorate of Underground Resistance gives additional information in connection with its communique of February 26, 1943:

1. Fighting at Krasnobrod started on February 1, 1943.
2. Units of the Armed Forces and Chłosta's Companies fought on the Polish side.
3. The Germans had 2,000 well-armed men, airplanes, 2 tanks, anti-tank guns. German casualties were about 40 killed.
4. German bestiality vented itself on a little village near Łuszczacz where some 60 innocent victims were killed, and in the Hamernia region where women were raped and women and children murdered.

RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA, Nr. 4-5

ORDER OF THE DAY

THE COMMANDER OF ARMED FORCES IN POLAND

Nr. 84, February 8, 1943

Direct action by the Armed Forces in Poland against the enemy is growing. Bold attacks were made to free our soldiers from the Germans.

These attacks took place in a number of places in the country chiefly on prisons and on German convoys of Polish prisoners. A Company composed of soldiers and volunteers started from the interior of Poland toward the East. They overcame tremendous difficulties, and in a brave sally took possession of prisons, killed some Germans and freed our soldiers and political prisoners with no losses to themselves in men or equipment. This operation was successful because of the thorough preparation and courage of the fighters, who maintained their presence of mind throughout.

This action is an excellent example of the resistance Armed Forces in Poland are conducting within the framework of Underground Resistance in Poland. Along with other successful operations it testifies to the strength of spirit, courage, good leadership and fighting spirit of our soldiers.

I have recognized the services of participants of this operation by: appointing two of them to be second lieutenants and decorating two with the "Virtuti Militari Class V," giving the Cross of Valor to the bravest privates and mentioning others in despatches.

Commander of the Armed Forces in Poland
(-) GROT.

2

RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA

Nr. 4-5-1943

ROZKAZ KOMENDANTA SIŁ ZBROJNYCH W KRAJU Nr. 84. Dn. 8.II. 1943 r.

W okresie nasilenia bezpośrednich akcji Sił Zbrojnych w Kraju przeciwko okupantowi, wykonano również kilka śmiałych napadów, celem odciążenia naszych żołnierzy z rąk niemieckich.

Miały one miejsce w szeregu punktach Kraju i sprowadzały się przede wszystkim do napadów na więzienia lub konwoje niemieckie prowadzące aresztowanych. Na specjalne wyróżnienie zasługują ostatnia podobna akcja zbrojna. Z wnętrza Kraju wyruszył na dalekie Kresy oddział złożony z żołnierzy i ochotników, pokonał olbrzymie trudności techniczne, w hratwym wypadku opomógł więźniów, kładąc trupem kilku Niemców i odbił kilku więzionych tam naszych żołnierzy oraz wypuścił na wolność kilkadziesiąt więźniów politycznych, sam nie ponosząc strat ani w ludziach ani w uzbrojeniu. Akcja udała się dzięki odpowiedniemu przygotowaniu oraz odwadze wszystkich uczestników przy całkowitym zachowaniu zimnej krwi i przytomności umysłu podczas i po napadzie.

Powyższa akcja stanowi piękny przykład czynu zbrojnego Sił Zbrojnych w Kraju, w ramach toczzonej obecnie przez nas walki konspiracyjnej. Obok licznych innych udanych działań bojowych świadczy o mocy ducha, odwadze oraz sprawności dowodzącej i bojowej naszych szeregow.

Uczestników tej akcji zbrojnej wyróżniłem:

mianując — 2-ch podpartacznikami czasu wojny.

nadając: 2-m Virtuti Militari V klasy,

— szeregowi najdzielniejszych Krzyżów Walecznych,

— reszcie udzielając pochwały.

Komendant Sił Zbrojnych w Kraju:

(-) Grot.

WŚRÓD BLASKÓW I CHMUR PRZEDWIOŚNIA 1943

Niewiele bezwzględnie bywa w dziejach ludzkości przedwiosennych akrosów tak pełnych wyzwalania na wielkie, destrukcyjne wydarzenia, jak przedwiosnie roku bieżącego. Tym więcej, iż z dniem każdym możemy się zapowiedzi i fakty, stwierdzające zbliżanie się tych wydarzeń.

Na ich czoło wysuwa się, bezwzględnie ofensywne działania aliantów przeciwko państwowi osł. Wcześniej niż zarządził konspicja się zima znakomicie przygotowała teren dla tych działań, przynosząc Niemcom ogromne straty w ludziach i materiale wojennym, poniesione na froncie wschodnim oraz zmuszając ich do rzucenia na ten front wciąż nowych rezerw, częstokroć wycofanych z zachodu i południa Europy. To też coraz otwarciej mówi się po stronie aliantów o niedalekim już terminie ofensywnego uderzenia. W swej mowie z 11 lutego premier Churchill odpowiedział, iż w

Casablance postanowiono rozdzierać plany ofensywne aliantów w ciągu dziesięciu miesięcy; a od Casablanki minęło już kilka tygodni. Z okazji rozpoczętego w dniu 28 lutego w Anglii tygodnia wojny, minister wojny Wielkiej Brytanii oświadczył, iż nie sprzymierzono się już gotowo do ataku i że wojska alianckie nie będą długo oczekiwania na opóźnioną przez nie chwile starcia się z wrogiem. Ostatnia mowa prezydenta Roosevelta pozwala przy tym domniemywać, iż uderzenie może być niebawem ogłoszone w szeregu punktów. W dalszym ciągu możemy oczekiwać, iż czynione są przygotowania do akcji alianckiej we wschodniej części Morza Śródziemnego. Złaję, wobec z tego sprawy w pierwszym rzędzie Niemcy, przeprowadzających tam gwałtowne przygotowania obronne. Ciekawość wsiada nadobędą też z Turcji. Specjalna brytyjska wojskowa misja wojskowa pracuje w Ankarze

"POLAND NEVER MEANT FOR SLAVERY"

by BERNARD NEWMAN*

BEFORE I first went to Poland, I remember discussing the country with an astute American observer who knew it well. In the course of conversation I asked my friend what, in his opinion, were the outstanding characteristics of the Polish people.

"I am not quite certain in which order I should place them," he replied, "but the first two are undoubtedly patriotism and religion."

Not until I went to Poland and moved and lived among Polish peasants did I realize how accurate his observation was. Idealism means far more to them than materialism; there is a spiritual quality in their outlook. Family life is a sacred thing. Tolerance is an inherent obligation in the Polish view.

Because of the spirit of freedom, which has always dominated Polish minds, the Poles have always reacted strongly against any attempt to impose decisions upon them, whether the imposition came from enemies, friends, or their own kings. It would have been impossible to have imposed the Munich Agreement upon Poland as it was imposed upon Czechoslovakia, for example. Even if it had been a thousand times more acceptable, the Poles would never have accepted it in such circumstances.

Poland was threatened by her neighbors in the west and in the east. For twenty years there overhung the country an atmosphere of impending doom. It was difficult to think progressively. One can scarcely keep one's mind on the building of a house if one is expecting bombs to fall at any minute. Considering these circumstances, it is amazing what progress Poland did make.

No man knows Poland completely who has not lived in a village of the plain.

Picture a Polish hamlet. It consists of twenty or thirty timber cottages with their outbuildings. There will be one shop, which will probably be the local tavern as well. The village centers about its church. Close by, bordering the green, will be the inn and the shop. The first two have altered little but the whole character of Polish commerce is changing rapidly.

Close by the church, too, is the village school. During the war of 1914-1918, more than half the scanty number of schools buildings were destroyed.

In food a village is generally self-supporting, for it produces ample supplies of flour, potatoes, milk, eggs and vegetables. The Polish peasant is not a great meat-eater. Sour milk and cabbage soup are favorite features of peasant diet. Potatoes are his staple food.

Even clothing can be purely a local product—and in eastern Poland very often is. A homespun suit, brilliantly embroidered, is more than becoming against a rural background, and its life is almost indefinite.

Poland is rich in ancient traditions and customs. At Corpus Christi religious pageantry is at its highest, but more intriguing is Midsummer Night's Eve, with many pagan survivals. Girls cast wreaths of flowers or leaves into the rivers; some of the wreaths bear lighted candles, and the girl's period of spinsterhood can be gauged from the time the candles survive. In the wooded districts a bolder maiden will search the depths of the forest by night: if she can find the wonderful fern blossom, which blooms only at midnight on



Polish peasants in a religious procession.

the eve of midsummer, then she is sure of happiness and a handsome husband.

Today Poland is a martyred nation. The attack on Poland was deliberate. Months earlier, Hitler tried to persuade the Poles to march with him against Russia; they refused. They fought valiantly against overwhelming odds. At the critical moment the Russians marched into Eastern Poland. But the Poles have never given in. At the time of the first Partitions, it was Rousseau who gave the Poles the advice best adapted to the moment: "Poles, if you cannot prevent your neighbors from swallowing you, you can at least secure that they will not succeed in digesting you."

Hitler will not succeed in subduing the spirit of the Polish people. This pleasant land, this friendly, virile people, were never meant for slavery. Common suffering is the closest unifier, and the Poles may emerge from their appalling ordeal enriched in mind and devotion. Hitler refuses to learn from history; we must not make the same mistake. Posterity, which ignores contemporary emotions, will judge our character by the fashion in which we redeem our pledges.

Political morality in Europe will be judged by the way Poland is treated after this war.

*Excerpt from "The People of Poland" by Bernard Newman. Polish Publications Committee, London, 1943.

NEW POLISH WORK OF ART IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE foyer of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in Washington, D. C., has several mural paintings that have been only recently unveiled. The center mural, 35 feet long by 10 feet high, painted on a sheer marble surface in wax colors and tempera, is the work of the well-known Polish muralist, Jan Henryk de Rosen.

Rosen was born in Warsaw in 1891. His father, a distinguished painter of battle scenes, was sometime court painter to the late Tsars Alexander III and Nicholas II. His mother was a descendant of Sir Vincent Weaver, a leading animal painter in the 18th century, Sir Francis Seymour Haden, first president of the Black and White Society, and Angelica Kaufmann. Rosen was educated in France and Switzerland and was a pupil of the well-known French artist, Luc Olivier Merson. In 1914 he joined the French Army and a year later was detached to serve with the British Expeditionary Force. At the battles of Ypres and the Somme he won the British Military Medal, the Legion of Honor and the Croix de Guerre. In 1917 he was the first representative of the Polish Army in London. After a few years of military and diplomatic work, he returned to the brush.

Rosen's main works are murals in the Armenian Cathedral at Lwow, which took him five years to complete, murals in the Kahlenburg Chapel near Vienna, commemorating the victory of King Sobieski of Poland over the invading Turks in 1683, and murals in the Private Chapel of the Pope at the Papal summer residence of Castelgandolfo. He was personally invited by Pope Pius XI to decorate his private chapel and conferred frequently with the Pontiff during the progress of the work. Pius XI, who had been Apostolic Nuncio at Warsaw, wished the Chapel to be Polish in spirit. Rosen therefore covered the walls with appropriate scenes from Polish history, introducing a religious note into each. One fresco depicts the defense of the Monastery of Czenstochowa in Southern Poland against the Swedes in the 17th



sword in hand, in full armor. He leads the angelic host, represented by militant angels and holy warriors, against the powers of darkness, represented by the three Apocalyptic horsemen signifying war, famine and death. The white horseman of the Apocalypse, winged, crowned, and with golden bow in hand, speeds at the foe arrows symbolizing the word of God.

To the left of the Saviour stands Uriel, Archangel of the Light of God and regent of the sun. He keeps under his protecting wing a choice group who have distinguished themselves for sanctity in this hemisphere. These include Pere Marquette, missionary and explorer; Mother Seton, foundress of the Sisters of Charity; Kateri Tekakwitha, the holy Mohawk Indian girl; Blessed Martin de Porres, the pious Colored religious; and Fray Junipero Sera of the California missions. Next stands, in shimmering silver costume, Columbus the Discoverer. In one hand he bears the Cross, in the other a representation of his ship, the Santa Maria, at whose peak floats the flag of Aragon and Leon and the historical mauve pennant of Castille. Kneeling next is Archbishop Carroll, first member of the American Hierarchy, clad in a rich cope.

The general background of the mural is a deep green-blue, sprinkled with golden stars.

The high ceiling of the foyer is likewise in green-blue and is studded with the stars of the twelve constellations of the Zodiac. Around the borders of the ceiling appear the twelve signs of the Zodiac.

Flanking the main mural on either side wall of the foyer are later to be executed paintings representing the multiple activities of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.



century. Another represents the last moments of Poland's famed soldier-priest, Father Skorupka, killed in action at the Battle of Warsaw in August, 1920, when leading an attack against the Bolshevik forces, advancing towards the city. In a place of honor Rosen placed Poland's miraculous holy image—Our Lady of Jasna Gora.

The Pope professed himself well pleased with the Polish artist's work, the first art work of its character executed for a Pope in 200 years.

Jan Rosen is the author of several frescoes for the Polish Pavilion at the recent World's Fair in New York. These are now at the museum of the Polish Roman Catholic Union in Chicago. A mural of his hangs in the Polish Embassy in Washington. Rosen also did the interiors of the chapel of Joseph of Arimathea in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul (Episcopal) in Washington; the chapel of the

Ukrainian Catholic Seminary in Stamford, Conn.; St. Hedwig's Church in Trenton, N. J., and other important structures.

At present Rosen is research professor of art at the Catholic University in Washington, D. C. He is becoming widely known by his frequent lectures on the history of art.

The painting in the foyer of the National Catholic Welfare Conference is bold in manner, vivid with bright colors, with lavish use of gold and silver leaf.

The main mural represents the Saviour seated in majesty on a throne supported by crimson seraphs whose faces are represented by golden flames. Our Lord's foot rests on a globe on which is depicted the Western Hemisphere.

On either side are represented concepts of the struggle between the forces of Good and Evil, and historic persons of sanctity.

On the right of the Saviour stands the Archangel Michael, prince of the Church Militant,



GERMAN PROPAGANDA IN POLAND



IN dealing with German propaganda in Poland it is necessary to distinguish between propaganda of the pre-war type claiming Poland's western provinces and that set up after the German occupation of Poland. Although the German program for the East is said to have been realized, propaganda is still carried on by the *Bund Deutscher Osten* with head-

quarters in Berlin, and local branches: the *Osteuropa Institut* at Breslau, the *Institut für Ostforschung* in Königsberg, and the *Deutsche Gesellschaft zum Studium Osteuropas*. All these organizations carry on activities to prove Germany's "historic right" to Western Poland to glorify German culture, the prosperity and development of this region under German government, and its alleged "decline" during the twenty years of Polish administration. Many publications are printed in large numbers and distributed abroad by these German agencies.

Also in the Western provinces of Poland illegally incorporated in the Reich and in Silesia, German propaganda is carried on by the National Socialist Party, the Labor Front, and the Hitler Youth. Every province (*Gau*) has its *Reichspropagandaamt*, a local department of Dr. Goebbels' Ministry for Propaganda and Popular Enlightenment, as well as a branch of the Party propaganda organization (*Gaupropagandaamt*). This overlapping is due to the organic structure of the propaganda machine in Germany itself, the *Reichspropagandaamt* laying down the general principles and the *Gaupropagandaamt* being responsible for their application. The *Gaupropagandaamt* issues a fortnightly bulletin entitled *Der Gauring*, which contains instructions and indicates subjects for propaganda. Both these departments have Press sections (*Presseamt*) which indicate the line the local press is to take. For this purpose the *Presseamt* publishes a bulletin, the *National Sozialistischer Gaudienst*. The propaganda department has extensive ramifications in every district, and each local party group has its own propaganda committee.

In Poznan, Pomorze and Silesia the Polish Press has been completely suppressed, and the Germans do not even publish any newspapers or periodicals of an official nature

in Polish. The German publications are the only ones allowed. But last March Gauleiter Greiser founded a "Polish" organization, rejoicing in the name of "Association of Active Poles" (*Bund der leistungsfähigen Polen*) to combat Polish passive resistance and sabotage. This association has only 240 members, who have had their food rations raised to the German level. Greiser himself said its aim was to increase the output of Polish workers employed in German enterprises.

In the Government General, German propaganda takes a rather different course. Official propaganda is in the hands of the propaganda department of the Government General. Each administrative area has a corresponding propaganda department. The National Socialist Party has its own organ of propaganda in the *Arbeitsbereich der NSDAP*.

All this propaganda organization is directed to persuade the Poles that Poland was sacrificed to the perfidious political policy of Great Britain, who incited Poland to war against the "prudent" German demands, that the Sikorski Government was only a "tool of the British," and that the only power that can assure peace, prosperity, a higher cultural level and future development of Poland is Germany. In short, that the burden of defending western civilization against Bolshevism rests on German shoulders, and the Poles should rid themselves of the delusion that they can ever again be a great State. They must cooperate with Germany.

German propaganda paints a gloomy picture of prospects if the Allies, including Soviet Russia, are victorious. They persistently maintain that Great Britain has "sold" Poland to Russia, and call on the Polish nation to draw the inevitable conclusion and recognize Germany's historic mission in the East. In return, Germany will be graciously ready to recognize a political regime for Poland similar to that granted to the Czech Protectorate.

These attacks on Polish morale have failed completely. All attempts to persuade the Poles to cooperate have been flatly rejected. In Poland there are no organized groups of "collaborationists" as in other occupied countries.

Yet, although German propaganda has failed to win over a single Pole, it remains persistent and thorough.

"POLAND" by Caroline Norton

After the Night—the Day!
After the Darkness—Dawn!
Trust to thy Star's bright ray,
Though its light be awhile withdrawn.

Though Ruin and Death are round,
And the best of the brave lie slain;
Again shall the war-cry sound,
And the standard be reared again.

Not all the red current is dry,
Though blood hath been freely shed;
Not all of the lineage high
Lie heaped with the slaughtered dead.

The dyke of the river is cut,
The branches are lopped from the tree,
But the gap shall be mended and shut,
The green bough wave freshly and free!

Slain Fathers have left to their Sons
No store but the blood in their veins:
Proud, brave, and indignant it runs,
And it may not be fettered by chains.

Then smile, little orphans, and sleep!
Though the Mother that rocks thee to rest
Through the long nights does nothing but weep
As she lulls thee, in pain on her breast.

Oh! smile, till thine arm is grown strong
For the sword, with its gleaming stroke;
Till thy heart comprehends the wrong
Of the mighty oppressor's yoke.

Like the goal that is set afar,
For the swift in the race to win:
Like the beacon-light's changeless star,
Which guides the worn mariner in:

Let the love of thy country gleam,
Sole aim and sole end of all;
Thy very existence seem
But a chance to break her thrall.

Though like one whom a shipwreck hath cast
On a restless, wandering lot,
In exile thy life be past,
In a land where thy Dead are not:

Thy Poland for aye untrod,
And the hymns of her worship sing,
To thy God, and thy Father's God,
In an alien and foreign tongue:

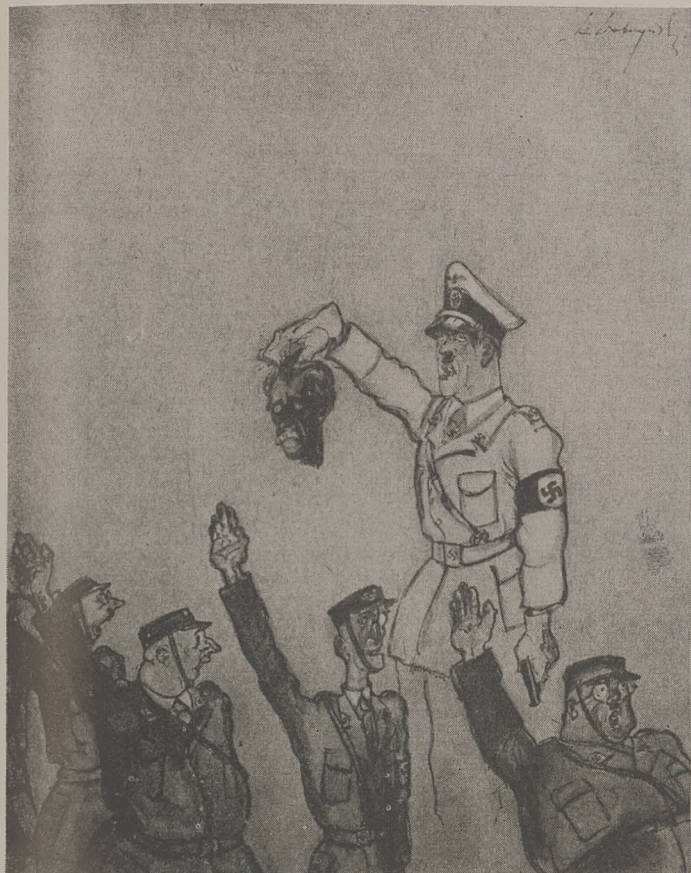
Forget not the land of thy birth!
Abjure not those memories dear:
The blood that was soaked in her earth,
Do thou in thy heart revere.

"In patience possess thou thy soul,"
Though thy hope may seem faint and far!
How near is the unseen goal!
How near is the beacon star!

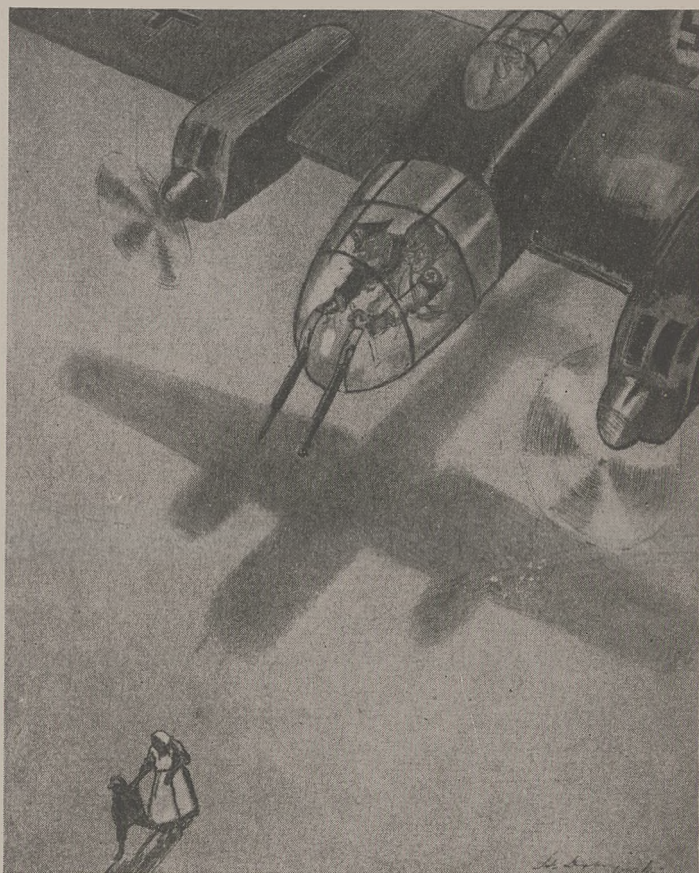
Yet both may be reached at last
By the steady in heart and eye:
Time enough, when all hope is past
For the sake of the cause, to die.

But after the Night—the Day!
After the Darkness—Dawn!
Trust to thy Star's bright ray,
Though its light be awhile withdrawn.

POLISH EXHIBIT IN CAIRO



By Stanislaw Dobrzynski
"Kultur" Carriers



By Stanislaw Dobrzynski
Luftwaffe



By Stanislaw Dobrzynski
Enemies Face to Face



By Stanislaw Dobrzynski
Road to Dachau Concentration Camp

TWO WERE SAVED

EUSTACHY E.

ONE day the crews of Flight Officer Cezary Lewicki and Pilot Officer Ludomir Bock from the Pomeranian Squadron were reported missing after a bombing raid. A plane was sent on reconnaissance. It started off shortly after 9 a.m.

They searched throughout their sector without success. Somehow they could not bring themselves to return empty handed, and decided to fly once more diagonally, after that along the rectangle, and again along the opposite diagonal and then home. They were on the final lap of their reconnaissance. It was 11:58 a.m. Suddenly Wiktor cried out, "Fighters!"

They all gave a start and looked to the right. From there two fighters were rapidly advancing in their direction. There was a moment of suspense. Germans or ours? Without hesitation the pilot veered the plane, shut off the engine and dived steeply to just above sea-level. They were Germans.

"Course 270 and home!" ordered the observer.

"O. K.," the pilot said, and changed to full throttle, coordinating gyroscope and compass. He never looked at the gauges. The engines were at full power. He did not care how many revolutions they made, what the pressure and temperature were. He was blind and deaf to everything. If only they could hurry, if only they could get nearer to England.

An experienced and well-behaved crew they were, that never got excited and only spoke when necessary. Besides, what with the roar of the engines at full speed and their own guns they could hardly hear each other.

"What's happened, Antek? I have only got one Jerry in front of me. Where's the other?" shouted the rear gunner.

"He's attacking in front from the left," the first gunner answered. "Look out for him, Antek; turn sharp left!"

"Blast and damn. I haven't any ammunition left and the devils have hit me, but never mind. I'm taking over the side guns!" Rudel shouted from the rear.

"I'm wounded, too," the observer said in a changed voice.

"Hold on, boys, and you, Michal, just keep on giving the Jerries the works and keep them off!"

"I'll manage all right, though I've caught something, too," Nowak replied from the front turret.

The Germans were attacking without a break. The first gunner answered with bursts of fire. Then the Germans changed their tactics, and first one and then another of their planes got in front of the Wellington, taking a half-turn, preparing to attack from there. They were charging with terrific speed straight at the plane. Only now did the pilot see the silhouettes of two slim Focke-Wulfs 190. From his front turret Nowak was already firing away at the right one, so the pilot turned to the left. He felt very hot all of a sudden and his heart was hammering. Instinctively he hid his head in the cabin, as if that could protect him. They had passed. He could only feel something pour down, some bits and pieces flying over his head. Once more the Jerries were attacking from the rear, once more he could hear Andrzej's voice shouting: "Attack, attack from the left! Get away by all means!"

A volley of shots followed. Andrzej, in spite of his



Polish fighter-pilot back from a successful sweep, shown with "Popsy," the Polish Fighter Squadron's mascot.

wounds, had moved away from the rear turret to the side machine-guns and was fighting on.

Suddenly the plane flopped down and touched the water. For a brief moment the body and the right engine remained under; then the plane once more flew up, but the right engine refused to work. The blades of the airscrew bent forward, smoke was coming from the engine. Oh, to reach England, no matter at what price, even with only one engine! The plane was still turning right, it did not respond to the rudder, it fell but the gunners still kept their guns going.

"Get ready to bale out!"

Twice more the pilot tried to direct the plane which raced along like mad. The inevitable end was approaching. The pilot realized this perfectly; he seemed paralyzed, his eyes were blurred, he could neither hear nor feel. He looked at his friends, trying to say good-bye to them with his eyes. Wiktor was standing at the door, just behind the second pilot. He did not start up the inactive plane any more, he knew they were dying together. He heard a crash and with it his consciousness left him.

The coolness and salty taste of the water revived the pilot. He swam instinctively just by the left engine; the force of the crash had thrown him out of the cabin.

"Boys!" he shouted, "for God's sake, get out!"

Silence.

"Boys!"

The plane went down in a few seconds. After the whirlpool and bubbles subsided a dinghy appeared. The last and only means of salvation. A few yards away something black was floating. It was Wiktor.

"Wiktor!"

"Antek!"

When they saw each other they felt new strength. Maybe some of the others could be saved, too? Unfortunately, nobody else was saved.

They discarded their parachute straps, their helmets and shoes, quickly pumped air into their life-jackets and started to swim towards the dinghy. When they reached the dinghy they noticed with alarm that it had capsized. As the sea was rough and they were exhausted it seemed impossible to turn it over. They tried to crawl on to it, but could not.

Dead tired, they hung on to the cords fastened to the dinghy's sides and relaxed. At last, by an almost superhuman effort, combining strength with astuteness, Wiktor succeeded in crawling on to it and helped his comrade up. They

fastened themselves on to the dinghy with cords, and remained lying on top of it completely worn out. They were drenched and chilled and the dinghy began to rock more and more. Remnants of the ship were floating around them and among these a carefully wrapped parcel. They fished it out to see what it contained. Good Lord, this was a parcel for the shipwrecked. It contained a few small tins of drinking water, some vitamin tablets and a little folded flag.

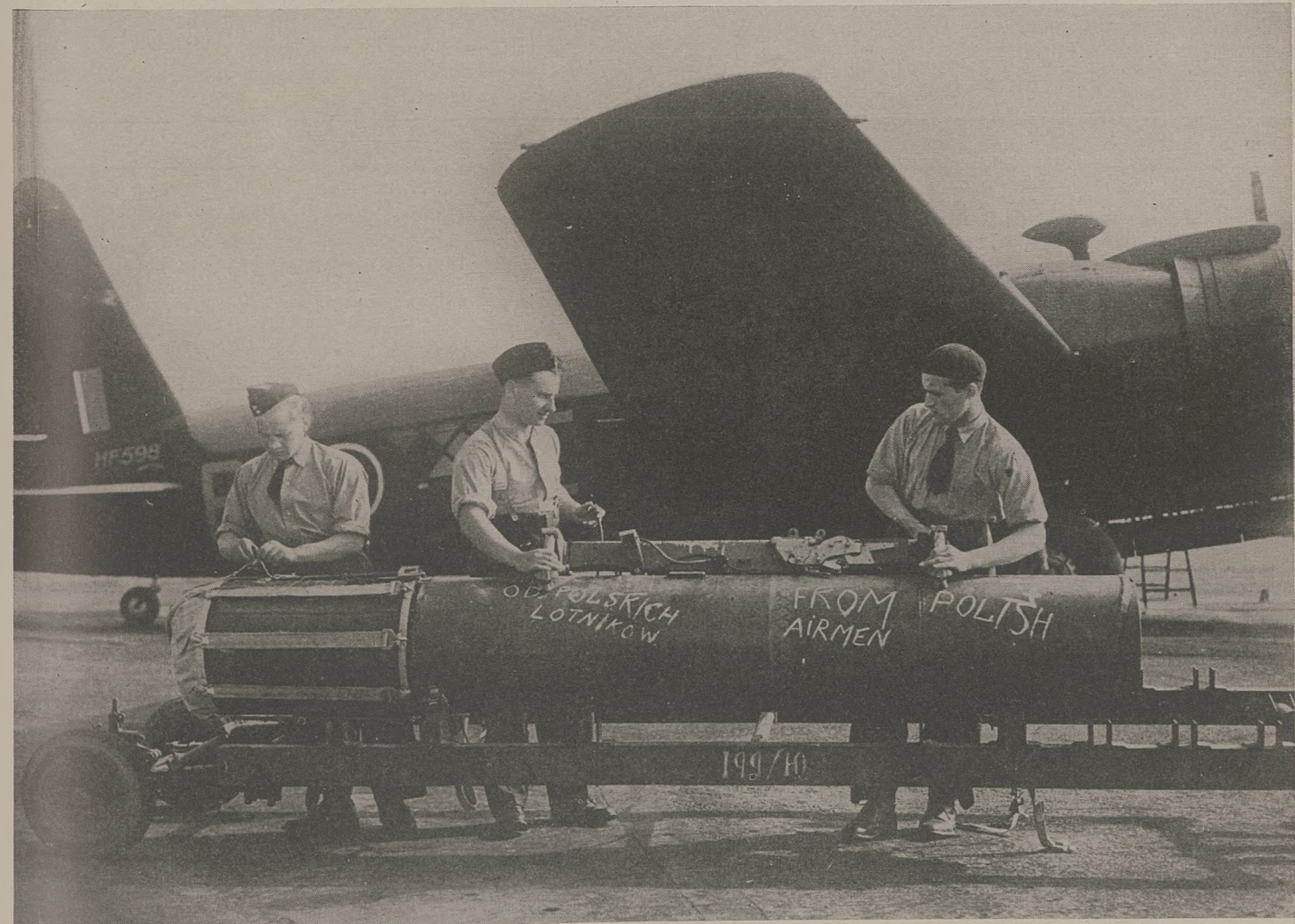
Meanwhile the dinghy turned into a soft, empty bag and at a certain moment it almost bent in half.

"Listen, we might be able to turn it over, now that it is deflating. Now or never!"

"Let us rest awhile first. Then we can risk it."

It turned over, and after a moment both of them were sitting in the dinghy quite exhausted, but happy. They were scooping out the water and pumping in more air. This exhausted them even more, but at the same time warned them up. The wind rose and it began to rain. To their indescribable joy they found the rocket at the bottom and the rocket starter completely intact and undamaged by water. Now they could wait for the rescue plane.

Only now when they were settling down a little, though
(Please turn to page 14)



"From Polish Airmen."

"WHO'S WHO IN POLISH AMERICA"

"**W**HO'S WHO IN POLISH AMERICA" has created wide interest among the American public. It is a record of distinguished Poles resident in the Americas, compiled by the Reverend Francis Bolek and his assistant Sigmund Uminski.

No effort has been spared to make it as complete and up-to-date as possible. The volume contains 597 pages, is bound in buckram and sells for five dollars. Orders may be sent to the publisher, Harbinger House, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

In the October Issue of the *News Bulletin* of the Gallery of Living Catholic Authors, Miss Catherine M. Neale comments as follows:

"... Exhaustive and careful research has produced this valuable record of the achievements of distinguished Poles in the Americas. There are some 5,000 biographies, of which nearly 4,000 are new to the present edition. The great majority are living, but deceased men and women of note are also included. Among the latter are Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Casimir Pulaski and Ignace Paderewski of historic fame, and Jean Reszke and Marcelina Sembrich Kochanska. In the field of drama is the outstanding name of Helen Modjeska. The

screen is represented by Gilda Gray (Mary Michalska), Pola Negri and Richard Boleslawski, the movie director. There are also the famous symphony conductors Leopold Stokowski and Artur Rodzinski. We learn that Joseph Hofman is not only a great musician but has invented an automatic windshield wiper for cars. This book shows how active Poles are in the fields of science, especially medicine, art and literature. They are also prominent as civic leaders. Their most numerous representation is in the service of the Church. In the field of education Poland has produced many scholars. Among them the Rev. Andrew Krzesinski and Mr. Miecislav Haiman, both members of the Gallery and Professor Oscar Halecki. The legal profession is also well represented and there is no field in which Poles have not made their presence felt in America.

"This book contains a vast amount of information about the contribution Poles have made and are making to the American way of life."

Even as the "Good Neighbor Policy" is emphasized today, so also, we should seek to know and understand our brethren across the ocean, so many of whom have come to our shore. The World Peace to which we look forward, may then be based on truly international ties.

THE POLISH-RUSSIAN FRONTIER

(Continued from page 3)

Poland, is a city with thoroughly Polish features and characteristics.

For centuries Poland has implanted a Christian and Western civilization in her eastern provinces, and the flower of Polish chivalry perished there in defense of western ideals. The universities of Wilno and Lwow and the Krzemieniec Lycee were fortresses of Polish and also of Western European culture.

After the Partitions the eastern lands of Poland within the frontiers delimited by the Riga Treaty once more entered upon a period of swift development in the social, economic and cultural spheres. During the twenty years between the wars from 1920 to 1939, the revived Polish Republic exerted enormous efforts in this direction. This is confirmed by im-

partial foreigners who visited these areas at various times after the last war, for instance, the eminent British scientist, Sir John Russell, who, in a lecture on November 3, 1941, expressed his admiration of the work achieved by Poland in her eastern provinces.*

The possession of these provinces is an absolutely vital matter to Poland, whereas to Russia, with her enormous area, population and material resources, they are of no importance whatever. The building of lasting friendly relations between Poland and Russia on the basis of the voluntary agreement of the Riga Treaty is in the interest not only of the two States, but of the general peace and stability of all Europe.

* *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. XCVIII, Nos. 5-6; November-December, 1941.

TWO WERE SAVED

(Continued from page 13)

still very weak and far from safe, grief for their lost comrades gripped at their hearts.

A few seagulls appeared. Should this be a sign that they were nearing the Dutch coast? Their hearts were heavy, they were shivering with cold, and sea-sickness was torturing them.

Suddenly they heard a noise. On the horizon they spotted two low-flying Hudsons, and up went one rocket, a second, third and fourth.

"Hurray, they have spotted us! They have spotted us!"

The Hudsons flew in a small circle overhead, threw down a flare, circled once more and dropped other flares. The crew was signalling with an Aldis lamp: "As soon as possible." The sea was breaking in big waves over their heads. The rain came down in sheets. They had almost no strength left and were fighting the elements with their last resources.

After six hours of floating in the sea they heard the throb-

bing of a motor-boat of the Air-Sea Rescue as it approached them. A few moments later, dressed in warm, dry clothes, sitting in a quiet cabin, they drank the prescribed rum and were on their way to England.

"Boys, but you did have a stroke of luck," said the English sailor in friendly tones.

"Well," replied the Polish airman, "we have had a lot of experience. It is not the first time we have escaped the man with the hour-glass."

Rejoicing over their return at the base was tempered by the memory of the three who had fought heroically to the bitter end so that others might live.

Shown on the cover is the Saint Kazimierz Chapel in the Cathedral of Wilno. In the foreground, the pulpit of Piotr Skarga, famous 16th century Polish preacher.

BANACZYK SAYS GERMAN TERROR GROWING WORSE

Minister of Interior Banaczyk recently broadcast as follows to Poland:

"I am speaking to you at home at a time when once again a great wave of German terror is sweeping Poland. For four years the bloody terror of the occupant has not ceased for a moment, but the present wave of cruelty is one of the worst. We know what is happening in Poland. In Warsaw, Poland's capital, and many other Polish towns, heavy trucks bristling with machine guns thunder through the streets which resound with the tread of armed ruffians. During these manhunts hundreds of men, women and children are killed by the enemy's revolvers and machine-guns. Others, surrounded by cordons of Gestapomen and SS men are taken to prisons where they are subjected to the cruellest third degree examination by torture.

"In Warsaw on October 15th the Germans through loudspeakers announced the names of 60 hostages. On the following day forty more were announced. They had torn a hundred innocent people from their homes and families and used them as the most inhuman and lawless tool of terror known in our times—that of collective responsibility. It was announced that for every German killed during fighting against the occupants ten of those hostages—innocent people unconnected with underground fighting—would be shot immediately. More than 50 of them have already been shot in Warsaw streets.

"I am addressing you at this tragic moment to protest before the whole world against these huge massacres unprecedented in history. The first thought that comes to our minds here, apart from deepest sorrow and sympathy for you, is the folly displayed by the German invaders. What madness has befallen these criminals to multiply their crimes at the very time that inevitable doom hangs over them, thus increasing the world's indignation and reckoning?

"In the situation in which Germany finds herself, the Germans should rather seek to have the scale of crimes to which they have accustomed the world, forgotten and not increased. The war has now entered its last final phase and Germany's complete defeat is certain. Feverishly the Germans are mobilizing the remnants of their strength and in their home propaganda are speaking of some mysterious means of winning the war, but all that is only like trying to galvanize a corpse.

"The Allies have tools in their hands which, within a short time,

SWIT UNDERGROUND POLISH RADIO

SWIT reports that in Poznan the Germans executed a Pole, Ludwik Bajer, for giving shelter to an escaped British prisoner of war.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that in Grudziondz, eight Poles were sentenced to five years in concentration camp for singing religious and patriotic songs.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that the German authorities have ordered all Poles living in Gliniana and Florianska streets in Cracow to evacuate their apartments which are to be used for housing German soldiers.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that the shooting of hostages continues in Warsaw. In addition to the fifty-one already executed, the Germans put to death ten more hostages. Street-raids and man-hunts are now being carried out in Cracow and Kielce and the fate of the arrested is unknown.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that carrying out their threats of reprisals for sabotage, the Germans have burned the town of Myliuny, in the Rokiszki district of Lithuania, completely to the ground, shooting all the male inhabitants and deporting the women and children to concentration camps.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that the Germans searching the Poles in Warsaw, steal watches, money and valuables from their victims and shoot those who attempt to resist. In a second search, when the arrested are brought in, the Germans steal everything they may have missed in the first search.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that during the Gdynia air raid, American pilots dropped parcels with the inscription: "Fighting America to Fighting Poland." News of these parcels soon spread all over Poland and produced a deep impression on the Polish population. In this gesture the Poles see the expression of American sympathy and friendship for Poles.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that the Germans have begun preparations for the evacuation of Lwow. The principal buildings in Lwow are being mined. If forced to retreat the Germans intend to leave only ruins behind them. Germany plans the complete destruction of Europe, and Polish Lwow, Ukrainian Kiev, Lithuanian Kovno will fall victims to their terror.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that Stanislaw Ogrowski, farmer from Koscian, accused of having fired at a policeman who came to arrest him for illegal cattle slaughter, was sentenced to death. A couple, Franciszek and Marta Maciejewski accused of having hidden textiles were sentenced to death in Poznan. In Wloclawek Jozef Kacperski was sentenced to death. He was accused of having struck his German employer.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that the annihilation of the Jews in Lwow was carried out in a most barbaric form. The Ghetto was completely destroyed and escaping Jews murdered in the Lwow streets. Remaining Jews were put to death in gas chambers, with the exception of 4,000 who were deported to a labor camp near Janow, where two Rabbis were forced to dance a foxtrot to the music of a German band during the daily roll call.

must force Germany down into defeat and humiliation and bring her face to face with responsibility for her crimes. The crucial moment is at hand and from this springs the greatest source of hope. So it is more than ever important that, in this awful hour of destiny, Polish people be united both in their fight against the enemy and in their work for the future of Poland. Unity is a proof of the greatness of Polish people. It will make possible the reconstruction of the Polish state after the war and also gives the Polish Government a special position in international politics.

"Unanimous support for the Polish Government by all creative forces in Poland and close cooperation among them, enables us to work in the most effective way here and to secure, wherever nec-

essary and possible, the rights and interests of the Polish State. The Polish Nation's ancient enemy, aiming bloodthirstily at its wholesale extermination in this war is Germany. We do not seek other enemies. Poles have had enough hatred let loose by the Germans and they wish, in line with their character, to maintain peaceful relations with everybody and to see goodwill in neighborly cooperation.

"I am speaking to you, my brother Poles, at a difficult moment, but the night is always darkest before the dawn. So in spite of the terrible darkness, in spite of the mad wave of murders, believe me, it will not be for long. In deepest unity with you I send you these words of faith in the future and of inevitable punishment for our enemies."

BRITISH PRESS PAYS TRIBUTE TO POLISH "PESTKI"

Correspondents of British newspapers recently visited the training camp of the Women's Auxiliary Corps of the Polish forces in Scotland and the following report is taken from The Scotsman:

"Training for the Polats or Pestki, as they are known more familiarly includes various activities which are not taken in the British service. The peculiar nature of work they will be called upon to perform when the Polish Army is again fighting the Germans in its own country, necessitates their being able to defend whatever is put in their charge, whether it be a truck or stores or airfield. The basic training which they receive in Scotland therefore includes instructions in the use of army rifles, handgrenades and practical experience of smoke-screens.

"Experience they have had as prisoners of war, of deportations and sinking by submarines gives them zest for their training and excellent keenness. Recruits take a four-weeks' course in subjects similar to ATS, such as drill, First Aid and map reading. After completing this they are posted to units for special courses as clerks, drivers, nurses, or welfare.

"Their instructors are from the Polish Army and all mess together in the camp's dining room. Kitchen and cooking duties are taken by all Pestki in rotation and orderly work is shared similarly. Comfort plays little part in their life and there is realistic atmosphere of wartime conditions in their headquarters in the basement of which a large old-fashioned grate serves for cooking their meals.

"Large numbers of 'Pestki' are training in musketry, gunnery, hand grenade throwing and various forms of defensive combat. Many of them are already crack shots. In one Scottish centre where nearly 300 Polish women completed their basic six weeks recruits training, many are handling rifles and Bren-guns with the skill of veteran soldiers. One of the 'Pestki' told a reporter: 'We are not happy unless we shoot three consecutive bulls at a hundred yards and throw our live grenades at least 25 yards.'

Poles in Norway

Norwegian press bureau reports that about 4,000 Poles who have been conscripted into the German army under threat of death penalty are in Norway. Germans distributed ten to twelve of these Poles into each German Company. Polish soldiers are treated very badly and seize every opportunity to escape.

SUPERMEN AT WARSAW

On the night of April 21, 1943, a radio station of the Polish underground went on the air with a desperate cry for help for the people of the Warsaw ghetto, who were being machine-gunned by Nazi soldiers. In the midst of the broadcast the station was cut off. A delayed dispatch sent from Stockholm to the North American Newspaper Alliance by Albin E. Johnson confirms earlier reports from the Institute of Jewish Affairs and other sources as to what happened.

Shortly after the German conquest of Poland about 500,000 persons, or nearly 40 per cent of the city's pre-war population, were herded into less than 7 per cent of Warsaw's buildings. On July 21, 1942, Himmler ordered that this ghetto be cleared. During the next few months about 400,000 persons were deported, and there is evidence to support the charge that great numbers of them were foully put to death by the Germans at concentration camps maintained at Tremblinka and elsewhere.

In January, 1943, the survivors in Warsaw determined to resist. The Polish underground furnished them hand grenades and other weapons. On the night of April 18, 1943, the Warsaw ghetto became a beleaguered fortress. For five weeks it held out against assaults by Nazi police and troops. When it was finally overrun with the aid of artillery and bombing planes 20,000 of its defenders were left alive. A few women and children are believed to have been sheltered by friendly Poles. The others are undoubtedly dead now. The insult of resistance to Hitler's supermen could not be forgiven.

Yet who were the supermen at Warsaw? Were they the butchers who could not conquer the ghetto in hand-to-hand fighting and had to fall back on shells and bombs? Or were they the men who resolved that if they had to die they would die free, with arms in their hands? When the honor roll of this war is made up their names must be on it. When Lidice is paid for Warsaw must be paid for, too.

(From the New York Times, October 28, 1943.)